CITY OF MILWAUKEE SANITATION GRADING SYSTEM

An Introduction to Milwaukee's Sanitation Scoring System

Your Sanitation Grading System Score

Every inspection conducted by MHD food inspectors is based on the 2009 Wisconsin Food Code. Violations fall into three categories: Priority, Priority Foundation, and Core violations. Under Milwaukee's Sanitation Grading System, your annual inspection will continue to be based on the 2009 Wisconsin Food Code, and each food establishment will start with 100 points. Points will be deducted for each violation that inspector documents, with point values assigned to the violations based on the health risk the violation poses to the public:

Priority: This violation contributes to the elimination, prevention, or reduction to an acceptable level, hazards associated with foodborne illness or injury and there is no other providing that more directly controls the hazard. Priority violations are 5 points each.

Priority Foundation: This violation supports, facilitates, or enables one or more priority violations. Priority Foundation violations are 3 points each.

Core: This violation usually relates to general sanitation, operational controls, sanitation standard operating procedures, facilities or structures, equipment design or general maintenance. These violations are 2 points each.

How Do These Scores Become a Grade?

The score will be converted into a letter grade as follows:











80 to 100 points

60 to 79 points

Below 60 points

Temporarily Closed = Less than 60 points or an imminent health hazard. The establishment will re-open after all priority violations have been corrected and the imminent health hazard is eliminated.

Grade Pending = Establishments will be provided a Grade Pending placard for posting during the appeal process.

When will I be Graded?

Each food establishment will be graded on their Initial Routine Inspection of 2018. Posting of your letter grade placard will be voluntary during 2018, and will be mandatory in 2019.

Posting Your Placard

Posting of your letter grade placard will be voluntary during 2018, and will be mandatory in 2019. Each Milwaukee Sanitation Grade placard will be required to be placed in a visible place on the establishment's front window, door, or wall or within 5 feet of the front door or other direct entrance from the street. Placards must be 4 to 6 feet above the ground or floor. If an establishment does not have a direct entrance from the street, they must post the grade near its point of entry, where it is clearly visible to passersby. The Health Inspector will help identify an acceptable place.

For More Information:

Find resources, including a Self-Guided Inspection Worksheet, online at milwaukee.gov/health.

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